

## Department of Social Ministries Report to Diocesan Council—August 30, 2018

### *Social Ministries Communication & Awareness and Volunteer Development*

[The Social Ministries Page on the Diocesan Website](#) is in the process of receiving a new look thanks to the efforts of Joy Hunter and Laura Bowman, Senior Warden, Grace Anglican Parish, North Myrtle Beach.

[Next Steps of South Carolina \(NSSC\)](#) continues to develop partnerships with other nonprofits and government agencies to help people get out of poverty using the Next Step Program, including:

- Next Steps of Johns Island (NSJI) is working with parent advocates at six Title I schools on Johns and Wadmalaw Islands and the Red Top Area to help struggling parents find employment and social resources.
- Next Steps of Barnabas Ministries (NSBM) is working with the Charleston Housing Authority to help downtown residents find employment and social resources.
- Next Steps of East Cooper (NSEC) is working with the Families Count nonprofit to help parents, who are trying to recover their children from foster care or prevent them being placed in foster care, find employment and social resources.
- Next Steps of James Island and Folly Beach (NSJF) is working with James Island Outreach (JIO) to train JIO volunteers to serve as Next Step Program mentors and database managers.
- NSSC is working with the Wando High School program called Dream Weavers to see how we can find volunteers to train as Next Step Program mentors and database managers to help parents in need find employment and social resources.

[South Carolina Christian Action Council \(SCCAC\)](#) is working to (a) reduce gun violence by promoting common sense gun legislation that bans assault weapons, high capacity magazines, and bump stocks and (b) provide clergy with worship resources to commemorate the importance of not forgetting injustices suffered by our neighbors.

[Charleston Area Justice Ministry \(CAJM\)](#) is gearing up for its 2019 program and continues to put pressure on government agencies that promised to work with CAJM to empower marginalized people in the Charleston area, including: (a) improving poor reading levels of 4-year olds, (b) reducing unemployment among 16-24 year olds, (c) reducing school-based arrests for minor offences, (d) reducing wage theft of low paid employees, (e) reducing racial discrimination in police practices, and (f) reducing youth incarceration for minor offences.

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